

Ward Notification

Tucson Fire Department





Contact: Captain Trish Tracy (520) 410-1901 Pager

Date: July 22, 2009

Ward 3 – Recycle Plant Fire – 1800 Block of West Price Street

July 22, 2009

Dispatch Time – 1854 On-Scene Time – 1859 Under Control - 2354

There were multiple calls to 911 reporting heavy smoke and flames coming from the area of Prince and I-10. Firefighters arrived to find a large fire at a recycling plant near Price Street and Romero Road. Wood, paper, plastic and other recyclable materials had caught fire and this blaze was spreading very quickly. Large hose lines were placed to protect nearby buildings from igniting. A sprinkler head activated inside the main warehouse building and contained the fire to a small corner of the interior of the building. A total of twenty-five units and seventy-five firefighters fought the fire for approximately 5 hours before it was brought under control. Crews rotated throughout the night to extinguish remaining hot embers. Front end loaders and foam were used to assist with this overhaul process.

Cause – Under investigation

Origin - In the baled recycled material in the yard of the recycle plant (most of material was baled or rolled very tightly, making it difficult to extinguish).

The fire did spread into the building, but damage to that building was minimal due to the activation of one sprinkler head.

Safety Message: Sprinkler systems save lives and property. The fire was contained the yard area. When it started making its way into the building, a sprinkler headed released water and prevented that from happening.

Safety Message: If you see a fire, call 911 immediately and report it. Next, move away from the area to allow firefighters access to the scene. Moving away also keeps you out of the smoke and toxic gases that are produced during a fire.